

# Transportation Tips



Atlantans drive over 100 million miles per day and add over 214 tons of nitrogen oxides to the atmosphere. We spend thousands of dollars each year for gasoline, insurance and maintenance to maintain this record breaking pace. Congestion, air quality, quality of life, wasted time are all reasons to consider alternatives. As part of the P2 challenge there are several things that you can do to put a little more money in your pocket and help the environment.



**Alternative Fueled Vehicles:** Over 50% of a conventional car's emissions are caused by evaporation in the fuel system. That means you are losing gasoline and money even while your car is parked. Dedicated alternative fueled vehicles don't have that problem. Fuel is cheaper and with the proposed gas tax increase the cost differential will increase. Both Electric and Compressed natural gas vehicles operate cleaner and require significantly less maintenance. While there is an incremental cost difference between conventional vehicles and alternative vehicles there are some incentives. The IRS allows a \$2000 tax credit for purchasing electric vehicles and a \$2000 tax deduction for alternative fueled vehicles. You can also purchase a special tag which allow you to use the HOV lanes by yourself!!  
*<http://www.afdc.doe.gov>*



**Bicycling:** Cars are very inefficient during the first few minutes of operation typical of short trips to the store. Stop and go traffic also causes significant decreases in fuel economy and increases maintenance requirements. Bicycling is a low cost alternative in some cases and who knows, you might meet a new neighbor.



fuel  
means

**Fuel efficient vehicles:** The average operating cost for a vehicle in Atlanta is \$.46 per mile. Larger, lower fuel economy vehicles usually include higher insurance and maintenance costs. Using a efficient vehicle can significantly lower your operating costs (up to 50%). Over a 5-year period this you'll have an extra \$4,500 to use otherwise.



**Carpools and transit:** Carpools and transit are easy ways to put money in your pocket. Since EPA fully funds transit and large carpools, this is a very low cost option for getting to work. Decreased mileage on your personal car means: less maintenance, lower insurance, longer time between tire changes, lower mileage and higher trade-in values. *[Http://www.voap.com](http://www.voap.com)*